Message Text

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TAGS: ETRD, CH, US
SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO STAGE PRC EXHIBITION AT GREAT
ADVENTURE PARK IN NEW JERSEY

REF: 75 PEKING 2224, 75 STATE 261404

- 1. CHARLES STEIN OF GREAT ADVENTURE AND TWO ASSOCIATES VISITED PEKING FEBRUARY 16-20 AT THE INVITATION OF THE CHINA NATIONAL LIGHT INDUSTRIAL IMPORT AND EXPORT CORPORATION TO DISCUSS THEIR PROPOSAL FOR STAGING A PRC EXHIBITION AT THEIR AMUSEMENT PARK AND PURCHASE CHINESE ARTS AND CRAFTS. STEIN CALLED AT USLO FEBRUARY 19 TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF HIS VISIT.
- 2. STEIN PRESENTED THE CHINESE WITH A WELL-FORMULATED PROPOSAL FOR THE EXHIBITION WHICH WOULD NOT ONLY INCLUDE THE STAGING OF PRC TRADE, AGRICULTURAL AND CULTURAL EXHIBITIONS AT GREAT ADVENTURE, BUT ALSO PERFORMANCES BY CHINESE MUSICAL GROUPS, ACROBATIC TROUPES AND ATHLETIC TEAMS. STEIN EVEN SUGGESTED A JOINT PERFORMANCE BETWEEN BANDS FROM THE CHINESE ARMY AND THE U.S. MARINE CORPS. AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION, STEIN WAS INTRODUCED TO THE CHINESE ASSOCIATION FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES WHERE HE DISCUSSED THE CULTURAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASPECTS OF HIS PROPOSAL.

- 3. WHILE THE CHINESE HAVE MADE NO COMMITMENTS, STEIN SAID THEY HAVE NOT RULED OUT ANY OF HIS SUGGESTIONS INCLUDING THOSE INVOLVING THE SENDING OF PERFORMERS TO THE U.S. STEIN HAS BEEN INVITED TO RETURN TO CHINA IN APRIL AND THE CHINESE HAVE PROMISED TO CONSIDER HIS IDEAS IN THE INTERIM. WHILE IN PEKING STEIN MET WITH LIGHT INDUSTRY DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER KUO FENG AND AGREED TO MEET WITH HIM AGAIN IN NEW YORK DURING KUO'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO THE U.S. AS LEADER OF THE DELEGATION FROM THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION.
- 4. STEIN WAS CLEARLY ENCOURAGED BY THE RESULTS OF HIS VISIT, BUT ADMITTED HE WAS HAVING SOME DIFFICULTY IN PUTTING ACROSS HIS IDEAS TO THE CHINESE. DURING HIS DISCUSSIONS STEIN TOLD THE CHINESE HE MUST HAVE A FINAL REPLY BY APRIL OR HE WILL BE FORCED TO FORGET ABOUT THE PRC FOR THIS YEAR AND BEGIN PLANNING A SIMILAR EXHIBITION WITH ANOTHER COUNTRY.
- 5. COMMENT. WHILE THE CHINESE WILL PROBABLY LIMIT THEIR PARTICIPATION TO SELLING ARTS AND CRAFTS AND PROVIDING FILMS AND PHOTOGRAPHS FOR UNMANNED EXHIBITS, THEY COULD DECIDE TO SEND PERFORMERS TO THE U.S. THIS WOULD CONSTITUTE A PERFORMING ARTS EXCHANGE OUTSIDE THE CONTEXT OF THE FACILITATED EXCHANGE PROGRAM AND THE FIRST SPONSORED BY A PRIVATE ENTREPRENEUR. WE INFORMED STEIN, IN A GENERAL WAY, THAT THIS MIGHT POSE PROBLEMS FOR THE USG AND SUGGESTED HE CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT TO DISCUSS HIS PROPOSAL. STEIN NOTED THAT HE INFORMED THE DEPARTMENT AT THE TIME OF HIS INITIAL VISIT AND HAS DISCUSSED HIS PROPOSAL WITH SENATORES MANSFIELD, CHILES, AND WILLIAMS WHO HAVE OFFERED THEIR SUPPORT.
- 6. INFORMATION IS COMMERCIALLY SENSITIVE AND SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED OUTSIDE USG. THAYER

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